

# Engaging Policy Actors to Co-design a Policy Implementation Study After Policy Implementation: *Case study of a state-wide substance use service expansion policy roll-out*

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**Data2  
Action**  
Oregon



# Our Team

*No Conflicts of Interest to Disclose*



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# Data2Action Oregon (D2A OR)

NIH HEAL Translating Data2Action to Prevent Overdoses initiative (NIDA: R61DA059163)

**Motivation:** Make data available to decision-makers to support *holistic* understanding of a problem so that they can identify high-leverage point interventions and policy reform opportunities based on data

1. Develop and test a manualized (clearly operationalized) policy planning implementation strategy
2. Co-design user-friendly data products to make prioritized, trusted data available to decision makers to support **data-driven decision making**
3. Support **collaboration** across system actors

Proposal Writing & on -> Implementation Strategy -> TBD

~~Little consideration/  
relevance to policy-level  
factors or actors~~

Meaningful  
contextualization  
of D&I efforts in  
policy contexts

Actively  
engaging policy  
actor networks in  
research

Co-producing  
research with  
policy actors



# Project Overview

## Policy Implementation Strategy (Intervention):

Discovery & Design Sessions, data products

- Designing & piloting sessions in Year 1/phase 1 with state-wide perspective

**Comparison:** No Discovery & Design Sessions (counties cluster-randomized), no data product (stepped-wedge)

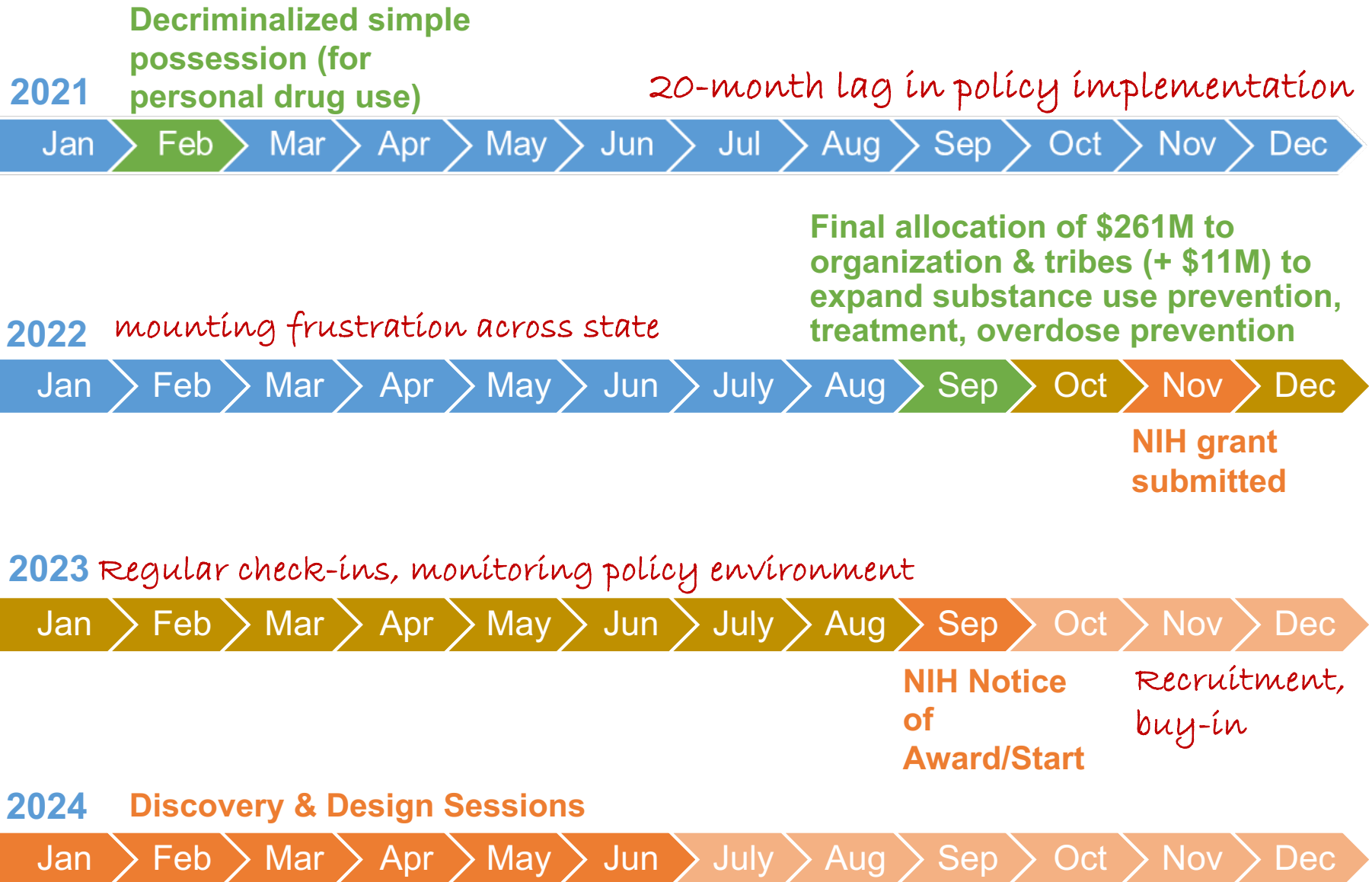
- Phase 2 Clinical Trial (4 years) repeats Discovery & Design Sessions with local (county-level) perspectives

## Outcomes

- **Collaboration** within behavioral health & between (law enforcement)
- **Population health:** Overdoses; Naloxone delivered by EMS
- Substance use related **policy** (Measure 110 citations, efforts to address service gaps, service recipient perspectives)
- **Data-informed decision making** in policy



# Motivating Policy: Ballot Measure 110





## Necessary, unfunded work

2021

Decriminalized simple possession (for personal drug use)

20-month lag in policy implementation

Jan > Feb > Mar > Apr > May > Jun > Jul > Aug > Sep > Oct > Nov > Dec

2022

mounting frustration across state

Allocated \$261M to organization & tribes (+ \$11M) to expand substance use prevention, treatment, overdose prevention

Jan > Feb > Mar > Apr > May > Jun > July > Aug > Sep > Oct > Nov > Dec

NIH grant submitted

2023

Regular check-ins, monitoring policy environment

Jan > Feb > Mar > Apr > May > Jun > July > Aug > Sep > Oct > Nov > Dec

NIH Notice of Award

Recruitment, buy-in

2024

Discovery & Design Sessions

Jan > Feb > Mar > Apr > May > Jun > July > Aug > Sep > Oct > Nov > Dec

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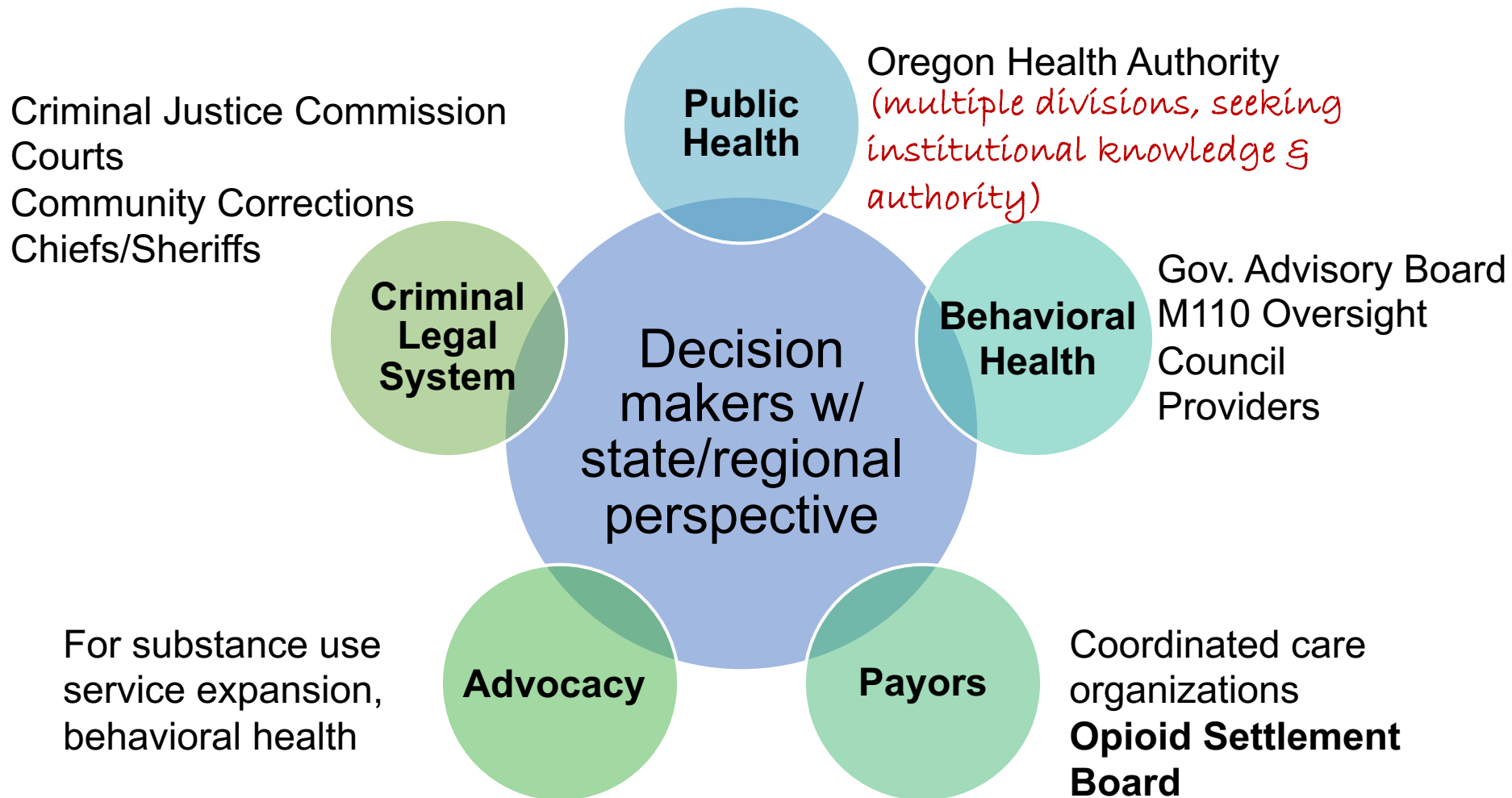
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# Representation across 5 partner groups for pilot intervention (Discovery and Design Sessions)





# Policy-Driven Collaboration

**Who: OSPTR** (Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment, Recovery) Data subcommittee- state board charged with designing new state-wide substance use data system

## How:

1. State health authority partners encouraged us to think about opioid settlement fund efforts during proposal development. They became key OSPTR actors
2. New state Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission Chair contacted early on due to knowledge from other state-wide policy efforts → connected us to subcommittee (overlapping roles)

**Why:** Similar timelines, goals (outcomes, participants); respect; burden; sustainability

**Timeline:** October 2023 (month 2) → *likely throughout course of project*

## Activities (examples):

- Ad-hoc and every other week coordination meetings
- Creating comparison documents for policy actors
- Coordinate activities (modified interview timeline), recruiting participants
- *Future:* Sharing lessons learned re: data priorities, end users needing decision support, user experience preferences



# Bridging Multiple Silos

Law enforcement  
(somewhat  
criminal justice  
system) &  
everyone else

Data initiatives  
within the state  
health authority

Research &  
contract efforts  
regarding specific  
policies  
  
(e.g., Measure  
110) & substance  
use broadly

Note reoccurring theme re: need for decisive leadership  
& coordinated direction, prevent duplicative efforts/  
wasted resources



# Tracking the Policy Context: Example

- Local & national news articles, podcasts about “why” policy is/isn’t working
- Political efforts (e.g., governor’s priorities, joint interim committee) to address substance use
- Opioid settlement projects at local level with shared goals (e.g., collaboration between local law enforcement & behavioral health providers)
- Related state-wide efforts, research
- Proposed and passed amendments to relevant legislation (e.g., Measure 110)



# Thank you!

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